News Release Senator Pete V. Domenici

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
JULY 27, 2000

DOMENICI: SENATE FINALIZES DEFENSE SPENDING BILL

FY 2001 Defense Appropriations Bill On the Way to the White House

WASHINGTON -- Senator Pete Domenici today confirmed that the Senate has given final approval to the nation's defense spending bill, clearing the way for White House consideration of the measure that will have far-reaching implications for the future of directed energy research and testing in New Mexico.

Domenici, a member of the Senate Defense Appropriations Subcommittee, served on the conference committee that finalized the **FY 2001 Defense Appropriations Bill** approved by the Senate (90-10) today. The spending measure will now be forwarded to the White House for the president's consideration.

Domenici said the bill provides important resources for military installations in New Mexico and across the country, including funding for pay, allowances, and support for military personnel, operation and maintenance of the forces, procurement of equipment and systems, and research, development, test, and evaluation.

"The needs of New Mexico military installations are well served in this bill. The real winners in this bill are our military personnel. We've made great strides in fulfilling our commitment to address the readiness problems that plague our military. Our goal is to provide our servicemen and women and their families, the same quality of life that all American citizens enjoy," Domenici said.

"This bill also carries exciting implications for military work ongoing in our state. Our military installations in New Mexico play a key role in our national efforts to strengthen readiness, training and modernization of our military forces," he said.

"I am also extremely pleased with the agreement we brokered for the vitally important Airborne Laser program at Kirtland's Phillips lab," Domenici said. "I am pleased we have completely rejected President Clinton's proposed deep cuts to the Airborne Laser program as irresponsible and contrary to U.S. defense priorities. I truly believe that the laser program can change the face of warfare, and I have worked to make sure adequate funding is provided to keep this important program on track."

The final defense bill includes an $85 million increase secured by Domenici for the Airborne Laser (ABL) program managed by the **Air Force Research (Phillips) Laboratory at Kirtland AFB**. The bill provides $233.6 million for ABL in FY2001, well above the $148.6 million sought by the administration.

The conferees also accepted a Domenici request adding $30 million for **directed energy RDT&E** to support programs selected within a consolidated and coordinated Defense-Wide directed energy management structure.

As part of the FY 2001 Defense Authorization Bill, Domenici won an amendment that clears the way for Kirtland Air Force Base and New Mexico to become the central management point for the Defense Department's **directed energy programs**. The amendment authorizes the implementation of aspects of the *High Energy Laser Master Plan* approved by the Defense Department in March. The authorization bill, including Domenici's amendment, is pending before a Senate-House conference committee.

"We are at a critical precipice concerning the future of our national investment in directed energy programs, and the stability of an already eroding industrial base," Domenici said. "I have pushed this consolidation effort to address the need to prevent

further erosion of the scientific and technological foundation of our armed forces, and to ensure real progress on the military applications of directed energy in a coordinated, cost-effective manner."

To help Kirtland maintain its position as a national center for simulated flight training, Domenici gained an additional $8 million for **Theater Air Command and Control Simulation Facility (TACCSF)** upgrades and operation in 2001. Of the $8 million, $3 million is provided for operations and $5 million for research between Sandia and TACCSF for critical infrastructure vulnerabilities.

Elsewhere in the bill, the conferees also approved a $53 million earmark secured by Domenici for the mobile command and control shelters produced by **Laguna Industries** as part of the Army's Warfighter Information Network (WIN-T) program. Overall, the bill provides $73.95 million for WIN-T in FY2001, a $60 million increase. The program received $153.8 million last year.

In addition, Domenici worked to secure, among other things, funding for the following:

- $17.5 million for the **High Energy Laser Systems Test Facility** (HELSTF) at White Sands Missile Range (WSMR), reflecting a $3 million increase sought by Domenici;
- $16 million for the **Solid State Laser Program** at HELSTF, requested by Domenici, over the president's $1 million request;
- $8 million for the **Tactical High Energy Laser** anti-missile program at HELSTF, all secured by Domenici since the president requested no funding for this project;
- $7 million for the **Magdalena Ridge Observatory** for the New Mexico Institute of Mining and Technology (N.M. Tech) at Socorro, New Mexico State University-Las Cruces (NMSU) and New Mexico Highlands University-Las Vegas;
- $2.5 million for **Silicon-Based Nanostructures**, requested by Domenici to allow for equipment necessary to allow this research to proceed. NMSU is involved in this project;
- $3 million, added by Domenici, for the **LaserSpark** aircraft countermeasures program being developed by Phillips Lab;
- $8 million secured by Domenici for the continued instrumentation modernization at WSMR;
- $2 million for a **Landmine Detection and Remediation** program also involving N.M. Tech;
- $3.5 million for the **Big Crow Program Office** at Kirtland and WSMR; and,
- $2.5 million to continue the **New Mexico Air National Guard's 150th Fighter Wing (Tacos) Defense System Evaluation flight missions** at WSMR.

The following is a more detail account of programs and projects funded in the FY2001 Defense Appropriations Bill with impacts on New Mexico:

AIR FORCE RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT

Airborne Laser Program: $233.6 million is provided to the Air Force to continue this program, managed by the Air Force Research (Phillips) Laboratory at Kirtland Air Force Base. This funding level reflects Domenici's request for a substantial increase over the $148.6 million requested by the administration.

Phillips Laboratory at Kirtland AFB: $69.5 million, a $7.9 million increase over the president's request, for space technology research and development work at Phillips. A $1 million increase was requested by Domenici for cryogenic tank development.

Theater Air Command and Control Simulation Facility (TACCSF): $8 million for TACCSF at Kirtland.

Advanced Weapons Technology: $43.4 million for this RDT&E activity of importance to

Phillips Lab. This funding represents an $10 million increase over the budget request, which includes $8 million for the GLINT program, and $3 million gained by Domenici for the LaserSpark program.

Advance Weapons Technology/GLINT: $8 million secured by Domenici for the Geosynchronous Laser Imaging Testbed (GLINT) program. The GLINT program will expand the mission capabilities of White Sands Missile Range by adding a new laser transmitter which will be required for very high altitude and deep space object identification and capabilities analysis.

Advanced Spacecraft Technology Program: $63.6 million for this program, including $6.5 million requested by Domenici for the Scorpius Space Rocket Technology Demonstration. $6.5 million for military space plane development; and, $2.5 million for the Solar Orbit Transfer Vehicle Space Experiment.

Air Force Operational Test & Evaluation Center (AFOTEC**)**: $33.2 million for AFOTEC to evaluate weapon systems operational effectiveness and suitability, including new aircraft.

ICBM (Minuteman III): $51.4 million for advanced guidance systems modifications required for the Minuteman III missile. This includes a Domenici request for $2 million over the president's $39.2 million request for GPS certification for range safety and a quick reaction launch capability certification. **Honeywell in Albuquerque** is involved in this work.

Stinger Army Missile: $33.3 million for modifications to Stinger Army Missiles, including a $11.5 million increase requested by Domenici. **Raytheon in Farmington** is involved in this work. Domenici toured this New Mexico facility in April.

Warfighter Information Network (WIN-T): $173.95 million for procurement of weapons communications equipment, including the EAC communications program. As requested by Domenici, this is a $60 million increase to support this major Army information and communication effort which includes the Army's tactical voice and data communication system through the Echelon Above Corps (EAC) line. This funding includes $51 million for additional High Mobility Digital Group Multiplexer Assemblages and Single Shelter Switches in order to equip the U.S. Army National Guard and Reserve. **Laguna Industries at Laguna Pueblo** works to produce these shelters.

ARMY RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT

High Energy Laser Systems Test Facility (HELSTF): $37.5 million for HELSTF and related projects at **White Sands Missile Range**, including the Solid State Laser program and the Theater High Energy Laser (THEL) project. Domenici gained a $3 million increase over the administration's $14.5 million request for HELSTF operations in FY2001. HELSTF and related activities were funded at $37.5 million in 2000.

Solid State Laser Program: $16 million is provided for this program at HELSTF, reflecting the $15 million increase sought by Domenici above the president's $1 million budget request for this program.

Tactical High Energy Laser Program: $15 million is included at Domenici's request for the THEL program at HELSTF for further testing and risk reduction of a joint U.S.-Israel program, which was not included in the president's budget request.
(Separately, the Senate in May approved a Domenici amendment adding $5.7 million in supplemental funding for FY2000 for THEL.

Army Test Ranges and Facilities: $8 million, requested by Domenici, was approved for instrumentation modernization at **WSMR**. A backlog of instrumentation modernization and repair is on WSMR's top 10 list of unfunded requirements and among the top unfunded priorities for the Army. This funding is included in the $122.7 provided for operations at Army test ranges and facilities, including WSMR.

RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT, DEFENSE-WIDE

Joint DoD-DOE Munitions Technology Development: $16.7 million, equal to the administration request, is appropriated in the Defense Agencies RDT&E activity for continued development of weapons technology in the areas of armor, anti-armor materials, new explosives, safety propellants, electronic safe-arm components, and other projects. **New Mexico's national laboratories** are partners in this program with the Lawrence Livermore Laboratory, with each lab receiving one-third of these funds.

ARMY ACTIVITIES

Sincgars Army Tactical Communication System: $30 million increase requested by Domenici to meet the Army's need for transition into digitized radios for personnel. Overall, $51.8 million is available in the bill for this program, which includes exchanging older model radios with newer versions within Active and Reserve/National Guard units. Laguna Industries is also involved in this program.

Information Operations Warfare Vulnerability Assessment: $37.2 million, which includes a $10 million increase requested by Domenici, for this program. The added $10 million will allow further development of an essential Army center of expertise to assess information warfare vulnerabilities of developmental information systems.

Weapons and Munitions Technology Program Initiative: $48.3 million, including a $3 million increase sought by Domenici, is provided for this program. The $3 million added by Domenici will allow for continued work in developing and applying innovative environmental technologies to facilitate the Heavy Metal Technology Support Office in addressing problems associated with contamination of range soils. **New Mexico State University** is involved in this work.

AIR FORCE ACTIVITIES

Cryogenic Tank Technology Development: $1 million requested by Domenici to support linerless composite cryogenic tank technology development under the **Phillips Lab** funding line. Reusable single-stage-to-orbit launch vehicles require lightweight fuel storage systems that include large composite cryogenic tanks.

Flight Vehicle Technology: $11 million provided for this program, which includes a $3 million increase sought by Domenici. This funding will be used to develop biological and chemical sensors compatible with the Air Force's E-SMART system. Although E-SMART has been deployed using several types of sensors to monitor ground water, air quality, and water treatment processes, E-SMART also has applications in detection and defense against biological and chemical weapons, including providing real time data monitoring from remote sites.

Intelligence Equipment: $3.5 million, secured by Domenici, for this effort directed by the National Air Intelligence Center and executed by the **Air Force Research Laboratory's** Rome site to demonstrate and evaluate the availability and threat of radio frequency weapons.

DEFENSE-WIDE RDT&E ACTIVITIES

Central Test and Evaluation Investment Development (Magdalena Ridge Observatory): $7 million, as requested by Domenici, to support the Magdelena Ridge Observatory project. A university research consortium composed of **New Mexico Tech, NMSU, New Mexico Highlands University**, and the University of Puerto Rico propose to construct a state-of-the-art observatory at 10,600 ft. in the mountains of central New Mexico. Maintenance of the facility, estimated to cost $1 million annually, will be the responsibility of the university consortium. The Army Space and Missile Defense Command, Air Force Research Laboratory at Kirtland, White Sands Missile Range, and the

Director of Operational Test and Evaluation all support the project, which could have observation applications to their work.

Big Crow Program Office (BCPO): $3.5 million, as requested by Domenici, for the Big Crow Program Office, which is crucial to the electronic warfare (EW) test and evaluation of DoD weapons and communications systems. For more than 20 years, the Army has operated the BCPO EW vulnerability assessment program at **Kirtland**. This funding will support: 1) Maintaining the Early Warning/Intelligence Early Warning capability ($2 million), and 2) Aircraft Operations, Maintenance, and Flight Personnel ($5 million).

Counterterror Technical Support: $49.3 million, including a $3 million secured by Domenici, for Counter Terror Technical Support. The $3 million will permit **New Mexico Tech** to compete for funding to support accelerating the testing and certification of blast mitigation effects. Blast mitigation technologies provide an effective, low-cost approach to force protection, especially where forces are moved on short notice into existing structures.

Information Operations Alliance for National Security (IOTC): $5 million, as requested by Domenici, for the National Security Agency IOTC effort. This funding will provide the means to: 1) Develop specifications for tool development; 2) Generalize and expand prototype tools through requirements analysis and concepts of operation development; 3) Continue tools testing and new prototype development; and 4) Expand the hardware/software base. **New Mexico Tech** is involved in this work.

Landmine Detection and Remediation: $2 million, as requested by Domenici, for development and testing of standoff, forward-looking Army countermine program. **New Mexico Tech** is involved in this project.

Generic Logistics R&D Technology Demonstrations: $48.2 million provided for this program, including $3 million sought by Domenici for a Silicon-Based Nanostructures Program under the direction of the Defense MicroElectronics Activity (DMEA). The program will unite researchers in engineering, physics, and applied science laboratories to further the development of silicon-based nanostructures. **NMSU Physical Science Lab** is involved in this work.

High Performance Computing Centers: $1.6 million increase in funding to support operation and maintenance of the Maui High Performance Computing Center through the DoD/OSD High Performance Computing Modernization Program Office. **UNM, Phillips Lab** and **Sandia National Laboratories** are also involved in this project.

NATIONAL GUARD ACTIVITIES

Defense System Evaluation (DSE) Mission**:** $2.5 million, requested by Domenici, in Air Force funding to support the DSE mission. The **New Mexico Air National Guard** 150th Fighter Wing DSE activity provides test and evaluation support to White Sands Missile Range by flying approximately 1,000 sorties per year under a memorandum of understanding with WSMR.

F-16 Procurement and Retrofit: $4 million, requested by Domenici, in aircraft procurement funding for F-16 On Board Oxygen System retrofit for continued retrofitting of F-16s. The bill also permits the Air National Guard to conduct a field evaluation of the F-16 OBOGS retrofit, should the Guard elect to do so.

NOTEWORTHY

Military Personnel: $75.8 billion, essentially the same as the request. A 3.7 percent pay raise is funded.

Defense Operations and Maintenance: $97 billion, an increase of $440 million over the president.

Former Soviet Union Threat Reduction is funded at $443.4 million.

Procurement: $59.2 billion, an increase of $1.7 billion over the request.

Defense Research and Development: $41.4 billion, an increase of $3.5 billion. Within this account, Domenici gained approval for an amendment adding $30 million for directed energy RDT&E to support consolidation and coordination of Defense Department directed energy programs.

Defense Health: $12.1 billion, including $413.4 million for defense medical research, including $175 million for Breast Cancer and $100 million for Prostate Cancer.

--30--